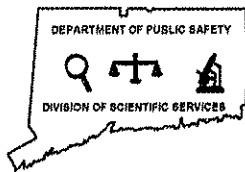


STATE OF CONNECTICUT



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

John A. Danaher III  
Commissioner

Lieutenant Edwin S. Henion  
Chief of Staff

February 18, 2010

Rep. Stephen Dargan, Co-Chairman  
Sen. Andrea Stillman, Co-Chairman  
Public Safety and Security Committee  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

**SB 150 AN ACT CONCERNING REPEATED FALSE ALARMS**

***The Department of Public Safety supports this bill.***

Public Act 07-246 established a system of fines for repeat false alarms. The intent of that bill was to try to limit the numbers of times that public safety personnel are unnecessarily called to false alarms. While the intent was good, the procedure is problematic. The bill set up a dedicated fund for the Department of Public Safety with collection and appeals to be handled internally. The Department of Public Safety has no mechanism to collect fines imposed; there is no existing process where the agency can receive funds directly as prescribed by statute. Additionally, there is no workable appeals process for these violations. This change in language will provide that fines imposed shall be an infraction and all funds collected will go to the state's general fund.

Current language as to procedure is not cost effective and practically unworkable with existing resources.

Sincerely,

John A. Danaher III  
COMMISSIONER  
Department of Public Safety

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